1881, 1891, 1901, 1911, 1921 and 1931. Subsequently, due to the serious doubts expressed by the then Census Commissioners about the authenticity and quality of data collected on disabled population, the enumeration of physically handicapped persons was discontinued during 1941 Census. It was felt that questions on disabled population did not lend themselves to a census enquiry since these did not seem to provide accurate data. In subsequent Censuses of 1951, 1961 and 1971 the question on disabilities was not canvassed. 1981 was proclaimed as the International Year for the Disabled. On a strong plea made by the then Ministry of Education and Social Welfare, a question on physically handicapped was canvassed during the Houselisting Operations of 1981 Census inspite of serious reservations expressed by the then Census Commissioner on the ability of the Census to collect reliable data on this characteristic. When the results of 1981 Census were finally available, it was felt that there was considerable under enumeration of physically handicapped persons. The 1981 Census results also supported the views expressed by the earlier Census Commissioners that, by their sheer design and nature, the Census Operations do not lend themselves to the determination or identification of people with special and infrequent characteristics of this nature. It was felt that the enumeration of the physically handicapped continued to be beyond the scope and capacity of Census Operations.

Threat by Fundamentalists

1445. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that religious fundamentalist activities and organisations endanger national unity and social harmony;

(b) whether Government are also aware of the growth of such organisations and activities in the country; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take to curb such fundamentalist activities and organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) The activities of all organisations having a bearing on maintenance of communal harmony in the country are under constant watch of law enforcement agencies and requisite legal action is taken, where necessary.

Dual Tribunals

1446. DR.(SHRIMATI) JOYASREE GOSWAMI MAHANTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether two kinds tribunals, namely Foreigners' Tribunal and IM(DT) are applicable in Assam for detection and deportation of illegal migrants in Assam;

(b) whether there are any other States in the country where such dual tribunals are in force for the same purpose of detection and deportation of illegal migrants;

(c) if not, whether Government will take immediate steps for bringing the State of Assam at par with other States in the country by withdrawing the said discrimination in the matter of detection and deportation of illegal migrants; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) In Assam, Foreigners' Tribunals under the Foreigners Act, 1946 are functioning for detection of illegal migrants who had come to the State of Assam after 01.01.66 (inclusive) and upto 24.03.71. The Illegal Migrants Determination Tribunals under the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983 have been constituted for detection and deportation of illegal migrants who had entered into India on or after 25.03.71.

(b) No Sir.

(c) The Government is of the view that the IMDT Act in its application to the State of Assam alone, is discriminatory. A proposal to repeal the IMDT Act, 1983 is under consideration of Government.

(d) Does not arise in view of answer to (c) above.